

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of a dense groundcover. The plants have small, rounded, reddish-brown leaves and numerous small, five-petaled blue flowers. The text is overlaid on this image.

# **Waterwise Groundcovers**

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# Funding Assistance From A Bureau Of Reclamation Grant



# Watering Guide

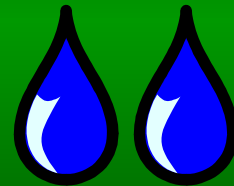
Water Zone 0



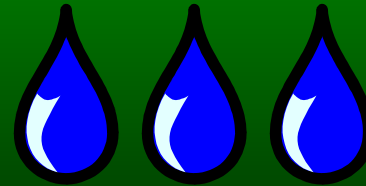
Water Zone 1



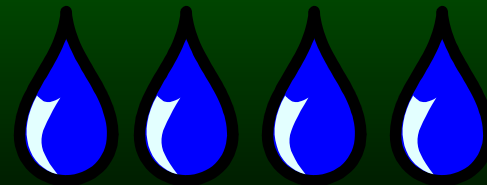
Water Zone 2



Water Zone 3



Water Zone 4



# Water Zone 0

**No irrigation**

**May need supplemental irrigation in  
extremely hot weather.**

**Most ground covers require supplemental  
irrigation until they have filled in.**





***Combine flowers and grasses for low growing, no irrigation ground cover.***

- Select two or three flowers and one or two grasses.**
- Prepare seedbed and keep seed wet and plants moist for the first season.**
- Seeding rates vary, consult seed company for advice or experiment with 1 pound per acre of each flower plus grass**

# Porter's Sulphur Flower

*Eriogonum umbellatum*



- Perennial: yellow flowers
- 6 inches tall
- Sun, light shade
- Open individual plants without irrigation





# California Poppy

*Eschscholtzia californica*



- **Annual: Orange or yellow flowers**
- **8 inches tall**
- **Sun**
- **Self seeding**







# White Yarrow

*Achillea millefolium*



- Sun
- Invasive, flowers more with zone 1 watering
- Flowers: White, Summer
- Tolerates mowing after flowers die





# Pacific Aster

*Aster chilensis*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Sun**
- **Flowers: Small, lavender and daisy like**
- **Fall flowers**





# Blue Grama

*Bouteloua gracilis*



- Sun
- One grass uses 2 lb./1000 sq. ft.,  
Two grasses use 1 lb./1000 sq. ft.
- Does better in Southern Utah
- Groundcover or open turf







# Buffalograss

*Buchloe dactyloides*



- Sun
- One grass use 2 lb./1000 sq. ft.,  
Two grasses 1 lb./1000 sq. ft.,
- 'Sharps' or other improved  
cultivars preferred
- Male and female plants, males  
have no seeds





# Early Indian Paintbrush

*Castilleja chromosa*



- Sun
- Flowers: Red, Spring
- Often grows with sagebrush
- Dislikes transplanting





# Sheep Fescue

*Festuca ovina*



– Sun

– Grass, 1lb./1000 sq. ft.





# Firewheel

*Gaillardia pulchella*



– Sun

– Flowers: Yellow, Red Summer





# Blue Flax

*Linum lewisii*



- Annual
- Sun
- Flowers: Blue, Summer
- Direct seeding, no transplanting  
self seeding once established,  
spreads rapidly





# Blazing Star

*Mentzelia lindleyi*



- Sun
- Flowers: Large yellow, Spring
- Tall
- may not be a groundcover





# White Evening Primrose

*Oenothera pallida*



- Sun
- For clay soil use *O. Caespitosa*
- Flowers: White, Summer





# Showy Goldeneye

*Viguiera multiflora*



– Sun

– Flowers: Yellow, Summer





# **Water Zone 1**

**1 irrigation per month**

**May need supplemental irrigation in  
extremely hot weather.**

**Most ground covers require supplemental  
irrigation until they have filled in.**



# Pink Pussy Toes

*Antennaria dioica*



- Evergreen
- Flowers: Pink, Summer
- Sun, light shade
- Forms dense mat; Silver, gray leaves







# Prairie Coneflower

*Ratibida columnaris*



– Sun

– Flowers: Yellow, Summer





# Kinnikinnick

*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*



- **Evergreen**
- **Prefers slightly acid soil**
- **Shade, light sun**
- **Flowers: White, Summer**





# Creeping Mahonia

*Mahonia repens*



- **Evergreen**
- **Yellow flowers with purple berries**
- **Sun, shade**
- **Drought tolerant**







# Blue Fescue

*Festuca ovina*



- **Clump forming grass**
- **Evergreen**
- **Sun**
- **Carefree once established**





# Common Juniper

*Juniperus communis*



- **Evergreen**
- **Many types with varying heights**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Native alpine**





# Juniper

*Juniperus horizontalis*



- **Evergreen**
- **Size and appearance varies**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Variety, blue green to green, no wet soils**





# Juniper

*Juniperus sabina*



- **Evergreen**
- **Size and appearance varies**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Variety, blue green to green, no wet soils**





# Juniper

*Juniperus scopulorum*



- **Evergreen**
- **Size and appearance varies**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Variety, blue green to green, no wet soils**





# Juniper

*Juniperus squamata*



- **Evergreen**
- **Size and appearance varies**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Variety, blue green to green, no wet soils**





# Potentilla

*Potentilla neumanniana or verna*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Yellow, Summer**
- **Sun**
- **Invasive**





# Dragon's Blood Sedum

*Sedum spurium*



- Perennial
- Flowers: Pink, Summer
- Sun, light shade
- Low growing, spreads rapidly





# Utah Green Sedum

*Sedum acre*



- **Evergreen**
- **Flowers: Yellow, Summer**
- **Sun**
- **Spreads rapidly**





# Hens and Chicks

*Sempervirens tectorum*



- **Evergreen**
- **Flowers Summer**
- **Sun**
- **Plants multiply but die after they bloom**

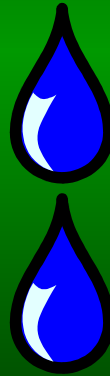




# Water Zone 2

2 Irrigations per month

**More frequent irrigation may be necessary  
in hot weather**

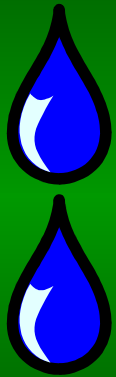


**Need more frequent irrigation to establish  
plantings**



# Bishop's Weed

*Aegopodium podagraria*



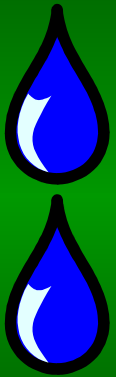
- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: White, Summer**
- **Shade, leaves burn in sun**
- **Prune flowers after blooming, heat sensitive**





# Bugleweed

*Ajuga reptans*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Blue, Spring**
- **Shade, light sun**
- **Height: 6 inches**

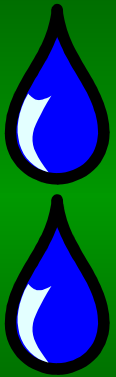




# Basket of Gold

*Aurinia saxatilis*

(Formerly *Alyssum saxatilis*)



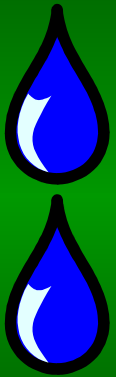
- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Yellow, Spring**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Height: 12 inches**





# Snow in Summer

*Cerastium tomentosum*



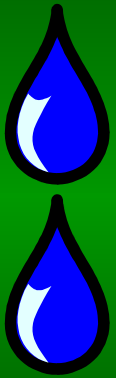
- Perennial
- Flowers: White, Summer
- Sun, shade
- Height: 4 to 12 inches





# Alpine Strawberry

*Fragaria vesca*



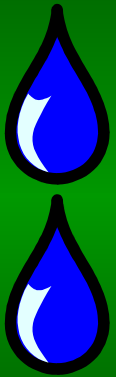
- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: White, Summer followed by small fruit**
- **Sun, shade**
- **Height: 6 inches**





# Aaron's Beard

*Hypericum calycinum*



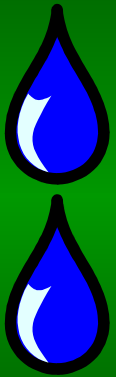
- Evergreen
- Flowers: Yellow, Summer
- Sun, shade
- Burns in extreme heat





# Hall's Honeysuckle

*Lonicera japonica*



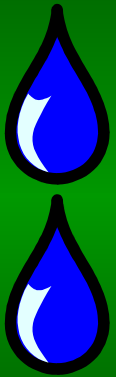
- **Herbaceous vine forming perennial**
- **Fragrant, invasive**
- **Sun, shade**
- **Flowers: White, Summer**





# Mountain Lover

*Paxistima myrsinites*



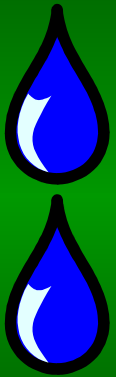
- Evergreen
- Also forms low shrub
- Shade, light sun
- Prefers slightly acid soil, grows under trees





# Memorial Rose

*Rosa wichuraiana*



- **Semi-evergreen**
- **Flowers: White, Summer**
- **Sun**
- **Tolerates poor soil, may become invasive**





# Water Zone 3

*1 irrigation per week*



# Irish Moss

*Sagina subulata*



- Evergreen
- Solid green mat, Scotch moss is lighter green
- Shade, light sun
- Needs well drained soil







# Dwarf Plumbago

*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Blue, Summer**
- **Sun**
- **Showy red fall color**





# Sweet Woodruff

*Galium odoratum*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: White, Spring**
- **Shade, light sun**
- **Excellent for many uses**





# English Ivy

*Hedera helix*



- **Evergreen**
- **Climbs if not controlled**
- **Shade -- burns in direct sun**
- **May become invasive**





# Creeping Jenny

*Lysimachia nummularia*



- **Evergreen**
- **Flowers: Yellow, Summer**
- **Sun, light shade**
- **Invasive**





# Pachysandra

*Pachysandra terminalis*



- **Evergreen**
- **Flowers: White, Summer**
- **Shade or filtered sun**
- **May winter kill under harsh conditions**





# Wooly Thyme

*Thymus psuedolanuginosus*



- **Evergreen**
- **Soft, low growing plant**
- **Sun**
- **Nicely scented**







# Periwinkle

*Vinca major*



- Herbaceous, trailing perennial
- Flowers: Blue, Summer
- Sun, shade
- Invasive





# Periwinkle

*Vinca minor*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Blue or white, Summer**
- **Sun, shade**
- **Good for planting with other plants**





# Sweet Violets

*Viola odorata*



- **Herbaceous perennial**
- **Flowers: Purple or white, Spring**
- **Light sun, shade**
- **May be invasive**









**For More Information  
Contact Your Local Utah  
State University  
Extension Office**





**Check Them Out At**  
**<http://extension.usu.edu/>**